Roderigo

Roderigo is conflicted between what Iago tells him to do about Desdemona and what he wants to do.

Act I: Roderigo claims he wants to drown himself because he cannot have Desdemona. Iago tells him to sell his land and follow Desdemona to Cyprus

“I will incontinently drown myself” (I, iii, 347).

Act II: Rodergio claims he wants to return to Venice. Iago tells him to stay and fight for Desdemona.

“And so / with no money at all and a little more wit, return / again to Venice” (II, iii, 388-390).

Act V: Roderigo does not really want to attack Cassio but Iago convinces him to go through with the plan.

“I have no great devotion to the deed” (V, i, 9).

Contributes to the theme of when blind passion overtakes reason, tragedy can ultimately result.